

WEEKLY CONSERVATOR

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W. H. HUSTON
C. M. ENGLISH

EDITOR.
MANAGE

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Think for Thyself one good thought;
And know it to be Thine own.
'Tis better than a thousand gleaned
From fields by others sown.
—anon.

THE ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW PRECEDENTS.

LINCOLN upon one occasion, when about to perform a stated act, that was was for the public good, was remonstrated with by a very, conservative associate, who told him that he had no precedent to sustain his position. Our martyred hero looked at his companion wistfully for some time, and answered him thus: "If there is no precedent to sustain my actions, I shall establish one." He did so and all was well with the "Ship of State."

So often do we hear it said by many "That has never been done here; it is useless for Negroes to attempt such an enterprise etc." Upon such occasions, the Lincoln incident, related above, comes to mind. How often have we allowed ourselves to be drawn from a good undertaking by some one—a companion or an associate, saying "That has never been attempted here; you had best leave it be." Be as Lincoln conceive a noble purpose, have confidence in your ability to do, then put self into it with might and main. What if you do fail, won't you be better acquainted with own powers of endurance, tact and intelligence? And having learned this, won't you be better prepared to attempt something new ever afterwards? Again we can not afford to continually follow after the "ye olden ways." We must launch out into the heretofore unattempted regions; we must enter the trackless jungle, for in doing so, we shall learn new uses for our already acquired abilities. We know what is in the old paths, fields and ravines that we have so reveled in, indeed. We are too conservant with many, because, of the knowledge that there are difficulties, causes many of us not to attempt to do some things that we could if we but exerted every energy and nerve fiber within us. Ambitious youth, you can not afford to fear to enter the unexplored realms that are about you. Will you stand and allow your talents and energies waste away? Be wide awake. Look about you. Enter something new. The school children pointed their fingers at the heads when they use to meet Columbus on the streets of the cities of Spain. Indicate to yourself a school youth of to-day, who has the "gall" to ridicule Columbus' idea of the roundness of the earth. Therefore, be entreated, oh, youth! to be establishers of precedents rather than followers—weak slavish followers. Give us more fearless venturesome spirits like Lincoln Washington (Booker T.) Columbus, and others and we shall experience a new regime here in America. Let us as a race, awake to new business activity, social cultivation and economical development.

opment. Doing thus we shall be leaders in shaping public sentiment that shall be more favorable to our future well-being and advancement.

THE PERSON, who reads, is the one who knows; therefore, read more, in order that you may know more.

WHAT HELP are you rendering the teacher your community toward the formation of good character? Do you think the teacher can do all without your assistance? Are you cognizant of the fact that the teacher has the child only 6 hours out of the twenty-four—six to nine months out of the year? Will you think seriously of this at once?

THE DEMOCRATIC allege that the Republicans were afraid to "touch" the tariff question has been completely squelched by the declarations of Sena or Foraker not many days since. The eminent Senator took the liberty to state frankly that the republican party had nothing to lose in discussing the Tariff or any other great question that merits the consideration of the people.

BE ORIGINAL sometimes. Don't be constantly copying after some other fellow. Can't you find something to think, talk and write about? Many of us are simply literary parasites living upon the nourishment acquired by others. In the school room, at your desk, on the farm, in the mine, everywhere strive always to be yourself—original. Your powers are more systematically used for noble purposes only when they are urged to action by the spirit of originality.

Why is it that so many persons stand listlessly about waiting for some one to die or fail, in order that they may do something? Has the world of opportunity become so densely populated that we must wait until another steps out or dies before we can hope to utilize our gifts—literary, mechanical, inventive or philosophical? No. There is no necessity for us standing idly by, for the Master has often and is now asking, "Why stand ye here idle." Laborers are needed. They must be laborers possessing the nerve and grit to "Go up against work," they must have creative genius to bring about new things; they must have the courage to follow the course their ambition may have lain out for them. This class of laborers are never idle. They cannot be idle. Idleness to them is sacrilegiously wicked. We need more, who are resolved to raise the standard of character higher; we

need more to reach down and lift the lowly, cheer the sorrowful and encourage the ambitious.

OF RS. Frederick Douglass.

Mrs. Hellen Pitts Douglass, widow of the Frederick Douglass quietly folded her arms in death at her home, "Cedar Hill" Anacostia, Washington, D. C., Tuesday Dec. 8th.

Mrs. Douglass was in her sixty-fifth year, dropy was the cause of her death. She was a white lady of very brilliant attainments, and could trace her ancestry back to the colonial days.

She met and married Mr. Douglass in 1884. Since his death in 1911 she has devoted her time to writing and writing on the "Race Problem," and in every way she was thoroly interested in the elevation of the Afro-American, so much so, that she had become flesh of their flesh and bone of their bone.

She endured all the insults given her on account of her marriage to Frederick Douglass without uttering one word of complaint and at all times depicted herself like a highly cultivated lady.

May her ashes rest in peace; may her soul, which was always kindly disposed to her fellow creatures, regardless of their color, find a rest in life, and a coronation.

RUNAWAY.

grew tired of home life and wanted to see some of the country. So on Sunday morning Dec. 12th, she had some neighbor girls to come in and pack her wardrobe in a red bandana. "Now I'm off to that far away town, Otterville." It was cold, only 5 below zero. She journeyed on until Geo. R. Smith College was reached and at "Old Emp's" suggestion, stopped in at a nearby house and thawed out. The one concluded that she would return to the city of Sedalia and take an east bound train and ride to her journey's end. She then entered a restaurant and took another thawing out, and upon being questioned, she confessed her propensities that her foster parents had prepared to send her away on an X-ray visit. Late in the evening the family gathered around the hearth to while away a few moments and then to bed. But there was missing from the circle the face of the little "mite" who had many a good night kiss and had caused many a longing for a soothing "nap." Willie was detailed to do a little detective work, to locate and bring back the missing link that would make this family circle complete. He performed his task very creditably, and found his charge at the home of Mrs. Jackson on W. Morgan St. So little Miss Dooly, aged 9 years, is again peacefully located at her former home with Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Travis in "Dalbyville," where "Santa Claus" will find her a much better girl, by her brief experience, than she was last year.

LAND-OWNING NEGROES.

Forty years ago the Negroes of the South did not own a square foot of ground nor a roof to cover them. Now, on the other hand, there are 130,000 farms owned by Negroes, valued at \$350,000,000; 150,000 homes, aside from farm township, valued at \$265,000,000; and personal property valued at \$165,000,000. So starting with nothing, here is an accumulation of nearly \$80,000,000. When the war began not 1 per cent of the Negro adults could read or write. To-day 40 per cent can do so. —N. Y. Com. Adviser.

ARE YOU A K. OF P.?

If Not, Why Not?

Do you not know that the Knights of Pythias is the strongest and most progressive order of the age?

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In this the members are united to care for and protect each other in health as well as in sickness and distress.

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In this department our young men are receiving a military education which they can get in no other way, thus making them better and more useful citizens.

LADIES COURT

In this the wives, mothers, widows, daughters and sisters of Knights are united for the common purpose of life.

ENDOWMENT.

In this department we are paying out annually thousands of dollars to the widows and heirs of deceased Knights.

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Best Vinegar..... gal. 2 c	Fine Hard Rubber Combs..... each 5c
Good Cream Cheese..... lb 15c	Safety Pins..... dozen 5c
Smoked Bacon..... lb 15c	Elastic Rubber..... yd. 4c
	Men's Supporters..... pair 10c

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